

Martin O'Malley Governor

Anthony G. Brown Lt. Governor

Darrell B. Mobley Acting Secretary

Leif A. Dormsjo Acting Deputy Secretary

December 5, 2012

The Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr. President, Maryland Senate 107 State House Annapolis MD 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch Speaker, Maryland House of Delegates 101 State House Annapolis MD 21401

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

This letter is written in response to language set forth in Senate Bill 413, Chapter 578, Acts 2008, titled *Courts–Service of Process–Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) as Agent for Nonresident Driver.* The language directs:

"That the Motor Vehicle Administration shall report to the General Assembly on or before January 1 of each year, in accordance with §2-1246 of the State Government Article, the following information for the preceding calendar year:

- 1. The total number of subpoenas, summonses, and other service of process issued in accordance with the provisions of this section;
- 2. The number of instances in which the Motor Vehicle Administration failed to reach the individual being served and the reasons that those attempts failed;
- 3. A breakdown of all direct and indirect costs incurred by the Motor Vehicle Administration in carrying out the requirements of this section; and
- 4. The total fees collected by the Motor Vehicle Administration from persons requesting service of process under this section."

The legislation designates the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) as the agent for a nonresident driver with regard to service of process related to a crash involving a motor vehicle driven by the nonresident. The bill allows the MVA to establish and collect a fee to recover MVA's costs. The provisions apply prospectively to cases filed on or after October 1, 2008.

The MVA reports the following totals for calendar year October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012:

Number of Subpoenas and Summons issued132
• Number of Subpoenas and Summons successfully served
 Number of Failed attempts to issue Subpoenas and Summons44 Undeliverable Mails
Number of Subpoenas and Summons in process
 Cost incurred by the MVA
• Total Fees Collected (132 x \$61)\$ 8,052

MVA anticipates a progressive increase in the volume of subpoenas issued and revenue collected from FY 2011 through FY 2014. As demonstrated below, this program has already increased considerably.

Courts – Service of Process – Motor Vehicle Administration								
as Agent for Nonresident Driver								
Reporting	# of Subpoenas & Summons	# of Subpoenas & Summons Successfully	# of Failed Attempts to issue Subpoenas &	# of Subpoenas & Summons	Cost Incurred	Total Fees	Net	
Dates	Issued	Served	Summons	in Process	by MVA	Collected	Cost	
Oct. 1, 2009 – Sept. 30, 2010	42	13	17	8	\$ 2,995	\$ 2,562	\$ 433	
Oct. 1, 2010 - Sept. 30, 2011	71	33	29	10	5,063	4,331	732	
Oct. 1, 2011 – Sept. 30, 2012	132	52	44	31	9,414	8,052	1,362	
TOTAL	245	98	90	49	\$ 17,472	\$14,945	\$ 2,527	

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If you have any questions concerning this report, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. John T. Kuo, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Administration at 410-767-7274. Of course, you should always feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

M. S. Molder

Darrell B. Mobley Acting Secretary

cc: Mr. John T. Kuo, Administrator, Motor Vehicle Administration